

San Bernardino County Children's Network
HIGH DESERT PARTNERSHIP FOR KIDS

MINUTES

October 20, 2003
Desert Mountain Educational Service Center
17800 Outer Highway 18
Apple Valley, CA

In Attendance:

Carol Ardrey	Loving Lamb Ministries	760-887-4024
Virginia Barron	SBCSS-State Preschool	Virginia_barron@sbcss.k12.ca.us 760-244-6131
Anthony Chambers	High Desert Youth & Family Center	hdyc@hdyc.org 760-245-7103
Zabelle Crosson	Independent Grant Writer	zcrosson@prepaidlegal.com 760-985-4535
Michelle Girard	Public Health	mgirard@dph.sbcounty.gov 760-956-4414
Mia Hardin	Inspirational Visions	itsmia22@hotmail.com 760-947-3317
Tom Hurtado	Probation	mhuff@prob.sbcounty.gov 909-387-3130
Dennis Morris	Moses House Ministries	judy.moseshouse@linkline.com 760-955-1895
Vici Nagel	HD Community Coalitions	vgnagel@cs.com 760-949-2930
Melanie Regalado	AVUSD	760-247-2052
Len Sandman	High Desert Community Foundation	760-241-4287
Cathy Smith	ACYFS	760-247-7930
Pamela Thompson	Loving Lamb Ministries	lovingthelamb@yahoo.com 760-887-4002
Kerri Tracy	Hesperia USD	kerri.tracy@hesperia.k12.ca.us 760-244-4411
Desa Waller	Moma Dee's Agape Inc.	760-947-7889
Carolyn Walton		acacres@aol.com 760-242-2021
Rhachene Johnson		760-951-5589
Robert Decker	Clear View Treatment Center	robertsdecker@hotmail.com 909-777-2242
Elisa Hernandez		760-244-4411
Marlena McCormic		760-244-4411
Lucille P. Hankton	VV Employment Resource Center	lhankton@jesd.sbcounty.gov 760-955-3823
Jessica Soto	Preschool Services	760-951-3431
Kia Denee Elder	Preschool Services	760-951-3431
Frank McLachlan		760-946-4779
Anna Vasquez	Bradach Elementary	anna_Vasquez@aesd.net 760-246-5016
Mary Jaquish	First 5 San Bernardino	mjaquish@cfc.sbcounty.gov 909-386-7706
Tammy Williams	Children's Network	tttwilliams@hss.sbcounty.gov 909-387-5365

1. Welcome and Introductions

Introductions were made.

2. Additions/Deletions to Agenda

There were no additions or changes to the Agenda.

3. Roundtable Discussion

Vici Nagel of High Desert Community Coalitions reported: The next Children's Commission Council meeting on November 3rd at 3:30 p.m. in the Board of Supervisors Chambers regarding the First 5 Strategic Planning.

Mary Jaquish of First 5 San Bernardino reported: Last month was the roll out of the First 5 San Bernardino and Children's Network collaboration, the "Community Assistance Network" (CAN). They are working on developing their resource center, which is named the Kelly Torres Resource Center. It will have age appropriate toys to check out and use. They will be applying for grants for a virtual learning center in the future. With that, families in the high desert or mountain communities can access information without having to drive far away.

Don Larkin had gone to Sacramento last month to talk about tobacco tax money and was not able to present on the new First 5/Children's Network collaboration. This month Kent Paxton had an emergency and was not able to make it, they hope to present this topic in November.

The First 5 San Bernardino Strategic Plan is completed and some of the findings are needs for: communities and how to address these needs, access to health care, playground equipment, programs in the high desert, teen pregnancy prevention, parenting programs, and transportation. Don will address how the funding issues will be handled.

San Bernardino County has a strong showing in the election, and the Federal Government is listening and looking at the Inland Empire. Specifically they are looking at the high rate of unemployment and ethnic diversity. It is urged to take advantage of the attention; the time is now to apply for grant funding.

Mary mentioned that this collaborative is one of the best groups that come together once a month. Collectively the attendees can make an impact on the high desert similar to Focus West for the west end. She received 20 calls this month for the East Valley Collaborative meeting inquiring about attending. There were also over 30 funding opportunities listed this month alone.

There will be a workshop hosted by the Board of Supervisors on November 20th with Dutton and Brulte on Faith-Based Initiatives. They will address Separation of Church and State, assistance for faith-based and Social Services corporations and their rights as citizens, protection of free religion and speech.

She also stated that she would like to invite Supervisor, Bill Postmus or a member of his staff to attend the High Desert Partnership for Kids meetings so his staff can see that there is a need in the high desert for technical assistance in grant writing.

She reported two months ago there was training conducted by the state on mentoring programs dealing specifically with youth who have parents that are incarcerated. This county apparently did not show interest in grant money available through this project, but Riverside County did take advantage.

Mary mentioned the hiring of student interns to be more cost effective and to provide more services. If you are looking for interns/volunteers, AmeriCorps and Diane Podolski at CSUSB are good resources.

On November 5th and 6th there will be training for non-profits with their 501(c) 3 to apply to for CDBG funding. Contact Mary for further information and upcoming dates of training workshops, (909) 386-7706.

Mary also reviewed handouts included in packet.

Jessica Soto of Preschool Services reported: On October 25th in Barstow there will be a health fair on Agate Road. Car Seats and applications for Make a Difference Day will be available.

Kia Elder of Preschool Services reported: She is the policy council representative for Head Start and is very excited. She has a passion for youth and is talk about goal setting, being involved with youth groups and start her own group. Head Start installed 150 car seats last weekend. They will be having parenting classes in November. A literacy program started early this year with 15 parents participating in an 11-week program. This was Kia's first meeting and she is finding it very interesting and likes to see such a collective and diverse group.

Virginia Barron of SBCSS Sate Preschool reported: They have begun to provide 3-hour preschool programs for ages 3-5 for low-income families. Call 760-244-6131 x203.

Melanie Regalado of AVUSD reported: Just had a workshop with Lakeshore providers on school success October 25th in Spanish and will have a follow-up in English. For parenting workshop information call 760-247-2052.

Mia Hardin of Inspirational Visions reported: They are getting Agape Home up and running. They have taken in some young men into transitional housing and are mentoring them.

Carolyn Walton reported: She is working with multiple agencies and foundations to find funding.

Lucille Hankton of Victor Valley Resource Center reported: She is starting a new program to help youth 14-21 find employment and training. For more information call 760-951-3440.

Michelle Girard of Public Health reported: She requested that anyone refer pregnant and parenting teens to her office.

Tom Hurtado of Probation reported: He is looking for resources out in the Apple Valley area regarding student attendance, discipline and parenting.

Robert Decker of Clearview Treatment Center reported: There is one home in Apple Valley, which houses boys on probation with substance abuse problems. They offer residential treatment and counseling, recovery, and monthly education classes for staff that work with children dealing with substance abuse. They would like to expand the recovery services for community-based organizations. They have noticed a large gap in after care services and are trying to get funding. They would appreciate any help with the grant writing, as it is a huge task.

Cathy Smith of ACYFC reported: They are gearing up for the holidays and are accepting all donations. They have four homes in Apple Valley and are hoping to give them a nice holiday. If you have a donation they will pick it up, please call 760-247-7930. A newsletter with activities listed was available at the meeting.

Dennis Morris of Moses House Ministries reported: Finishing up fundraiser this week where they raffled a \$30,000 playhouse. The last Wal-Mart location will be in Victorville before they draw a winner. He invited everyone to come take a look. They are also working on a pregnant teen program for single moms and babies focused on housing, hope and health. They had to turn away 120 applications out of which 80 were qualified, because they had no housing this year. They are working on getting housing and recruiting families to take in girls to show them how to function in a family setting.

Vici Nagel of High Desert Community Coalitions reported: She announced that they had an updated brochure on their program. They are trying to develop a network of resources and provide a single number to call and be connected to resources needed. They are working on bringing information on providers and services together to a comprehensive list of resources.

Zabelle Crosson reported: She gave away two passes from the Community Concert Association to anybody with birthdays close to today and Dennis Morris won. She is hoping to attend next month to receive information on funding, grant writing, and technical assistance.

Kerri Tracy of Hesperia Unified School District reported: They are looking for volunteers to work with expelled youth to do community service. They are setting up sites in Apple Valley, Victorville, and Hesperia. The youth will be supervised. They will also provide transportation for the youth volunteers. If you are interested in volunteers to work for your agency around Thanksgiving and Christmas let her know, 760-244-4411 x257.

4. **Next Meeting Date:** **November 10, 2003**
 High Desert Educational Service Center
 17800 Outer Highway 18, Apple Valley

Respectfully Submitted,

Tammy Williams, Recording Secretary
Children's Network

tgw/lmm